Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

A Google Form survey was administered by teachers to gather feedback from students on December 14th, 2022, during their weekly advisory class period. All students present on December 14th were invited to participate. It will be used to inform decision making by staff around current and future planning for Riverdale High School.

The multiple response questions have been disaggregated by student demographic focus groups to allow for information specific to those groups. The following information is a representation of the data in graphic form. The original data is kept by Riverdale High School in a confidential format.

Short answer questions were optional for students. They were coded using a quantitative coding method in order to identify patterns in survey responses. The table includes a summary of response percentages for each category, along with sample quotes for each category.

The survey questions were taken from the ODE Community Engagement Survey Item Bank.

Summary:
Demographic information:
183 students enrolled at Riverdale High School
162 students present on day of survey, December 14th, 2022
126 students completed survey (69% of all enrolled students)

Answer scale:

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly Disagree	○	○	○	○	○	Strongly Agree

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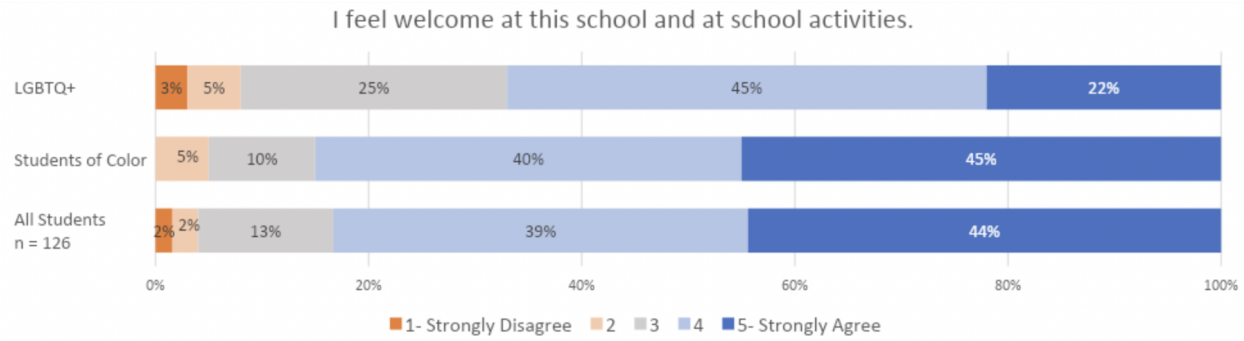
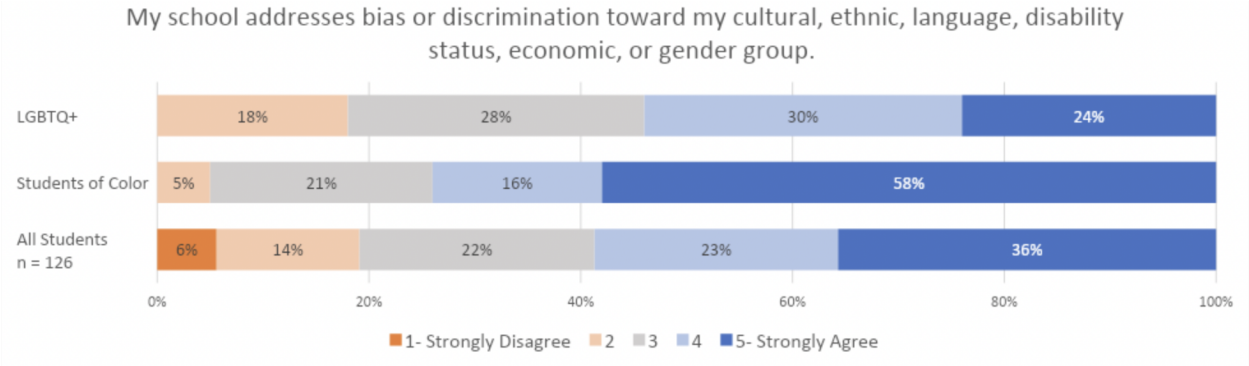
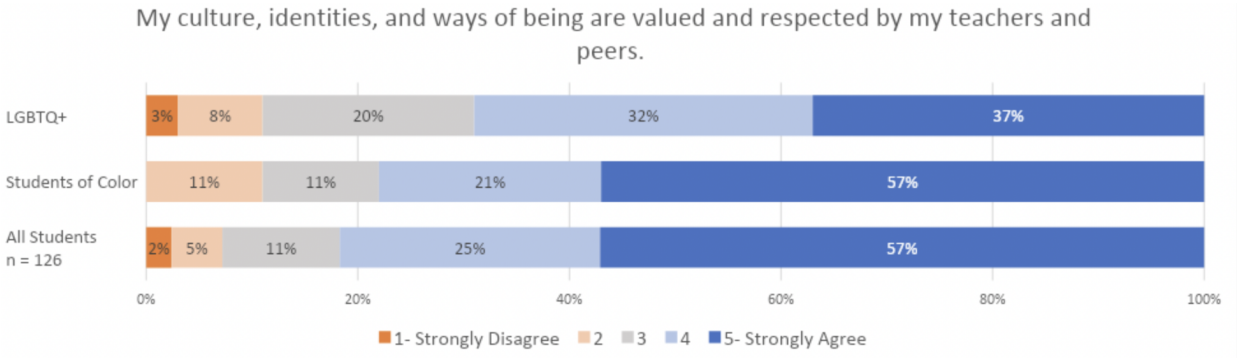
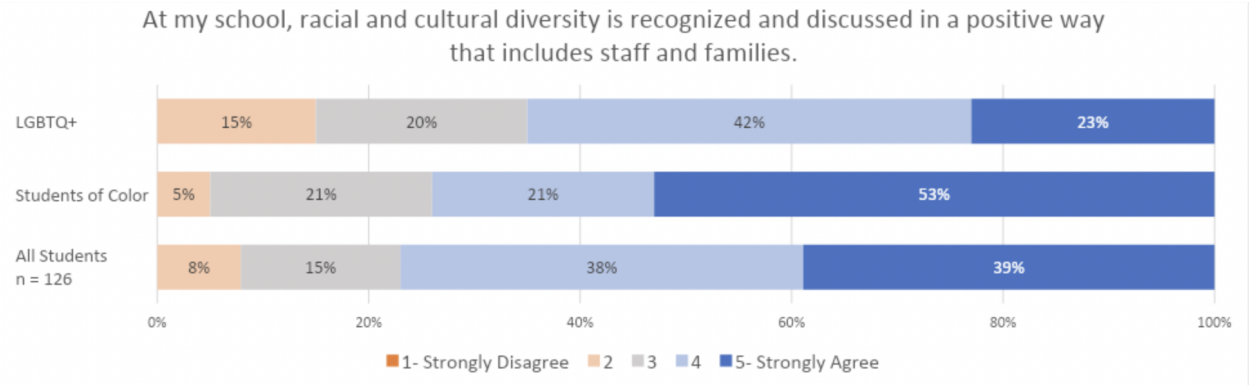
School Culture and Climate









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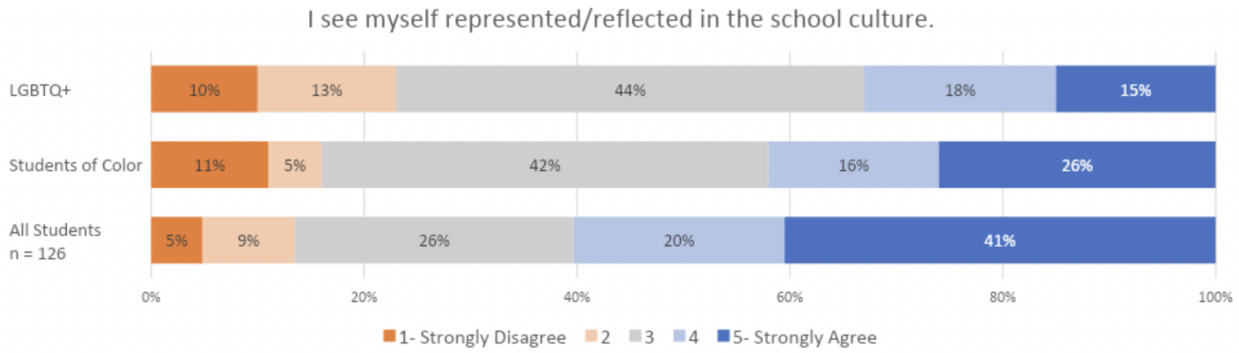

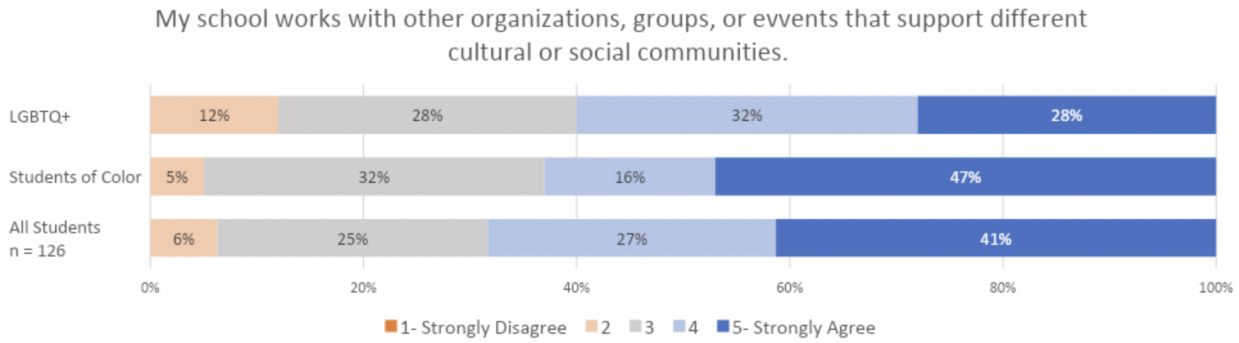

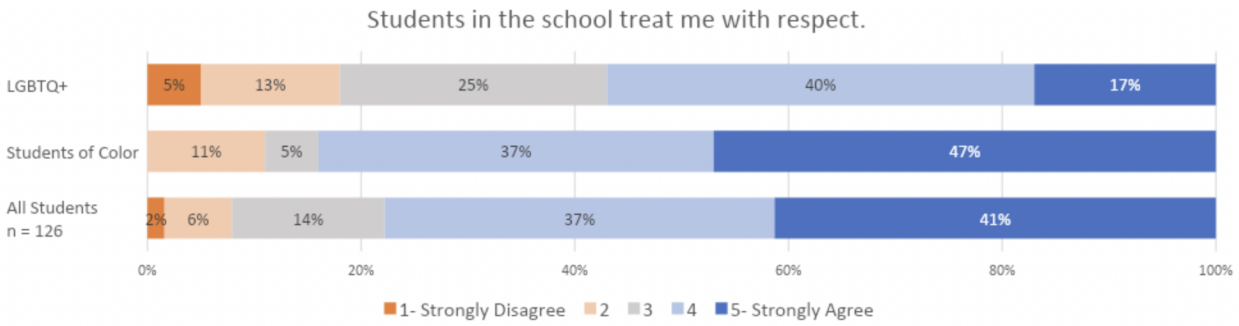

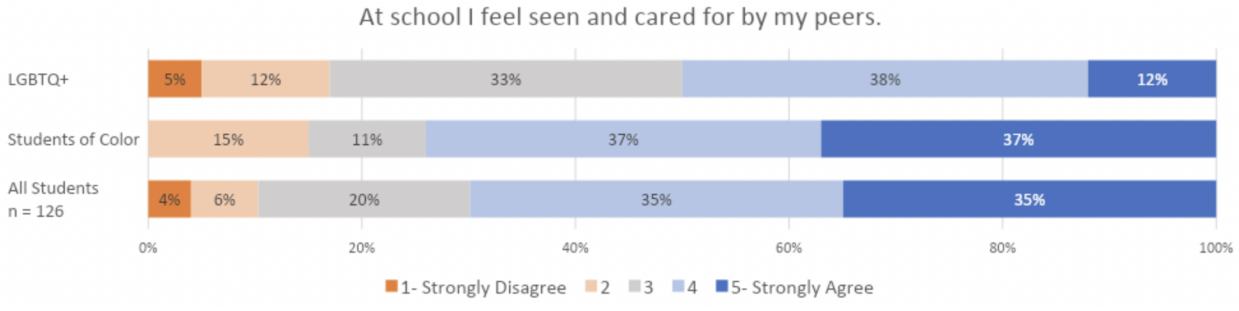

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What are some things the school could do to support your cultural identity or lived experience?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	38%	
Off topic response	8%	
It's going well currently	12%	● My cultural identity is supported, I just worry that others do not feel the same way. ● Nothing it is all very good already
More conversation about race and ethnicity	7%	● More serious conversations about culture and racial issues ● More cultural awareness around ethnicities and races
More conversation about LGBTQ+ topics	8%	● Education about queer history ● Address what homophobia is including microaggressions
More conversation about bias, identity, and culture	17%	● i think that all of the teachers could include identity into class. not even teaching about identity, just reinforcing that they recognize and respect your identity. it is mostly core teachers that talk about identity whereas i feel that elective teachers should, too. ● Work with MCSU for more culturally inclusive activities
Increase diversity	3%	● Diversify the staff. Nearly the entire staff we see day-to-day come from similar backgrounds and narratives (white ones). Don’t check off inclusion boxes, hire and uplift people from the marginalized groups you preach about protecting.
More conversation about religions	3%	● More emphasis on acceptance of all religions; I've sometimes had my religion laughed at or mocked at school (not intentionally attacking, but hurtful nonetheless)

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More teacher education about cultural competence	4%	● I would say not being singled out for examples when a teacher is trying to educate others. people being more conscious of the privileged things they say.
More understanding of financial differences	1%	● Being more aware/lenient of people with lower economic status when it comes to tuition, paying for extracurriculars, and paying for school supplies.

What are some steps the school could take to make you feel included or like you belong?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	26%	
Off topic response	12%	
It's going well currently	22%	● I think the school has already taken many steps to making students feel included, there is already far more activism I have witnessed here than any other school I have ever attended. ● Not much, the staff are great in general and respect and accommodate me.
Increase diversity	1%	● acknowledge the lack of diversity and work to change it
Increase art extracurriculars	1%	● Literally any art extracurricular whatsoever i feel so unwelcome in this ultra athletic environment and it is suffocating
More social activities	6%	● maybe more school events like dances or get togethers ● I would say bring back wild horse as I've heard that it tends to bring classes together, my friends from other schools have said they have attended similar events although optional it made the community come together and closer knit
More conversation about culture, ethnicity, and race	4%	● More presentations from student groups in advisories, more connections to things

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		like youth groups and organizations that support different identities and people, more work in curriculums that involves diversity and supporting one another, more work that represents marginalized groups and identities that is required in core classes, give NPFH more opportunities to speak up, share, and act for different groups of people, have the school look out for more disrespectful action from students and staff and have people take responsibility for their actions more, having clear consequences and measures in place when students or staff are rude, unsupportive, or engaging in other bad behaviors against others, etc.
More conversation about gender inequality	3%	● More discussions about the inequality between men and women. I feel like a lot of sexist jokes are made without repercussions. I believe if more conversations are had, people will understand why those jokes are harmful.
Ending cliques	1%	● Breaking up grade school cliques
More support for social emotional needs	3%	● Have yearly meetings with a school counselor because a lot of the time, people only get help if they seek it. A lot of the time I think people could benefit from just a check-in with the counselor talking about classes, sports, extra-curricular, nutrition, sleeping, etc. Mainly managing all the different aspects of one's life healthily, as it seems like school days fly by and we never stop to take a minute to make sure that we are able to handle it. I think if it was required to meet with a counselor once a year or even more often, this would be beneficial to many people. This check-in would help people be more connected to the community because they would have a trusted adult outside of one's family. A lot of the time people say that in a small

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		school you know your teachers well, and staff, etc. however have they really sat down and talked with them about more than their life within the school? If people were required to sit down and talk with a counselor at the school, maybe they could have the freedom to choose which counselor, and they would feel more welcome as the counselor can offer suggestions of support systems at school, opportunities to get involved, etc. They would have someone they could meet again later in the year to check in with and who would push for them to succeed because a lot of the time people don't know what is happening at the school that would be very beneficial to them, until it has passed.

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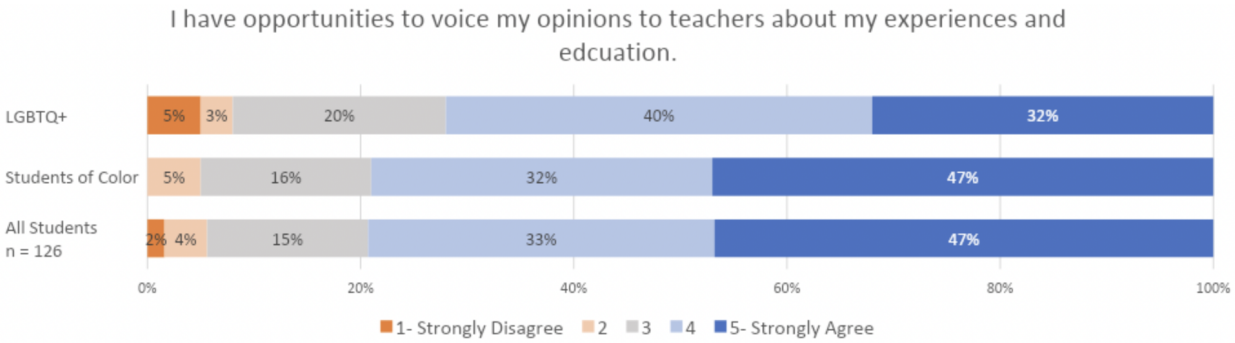
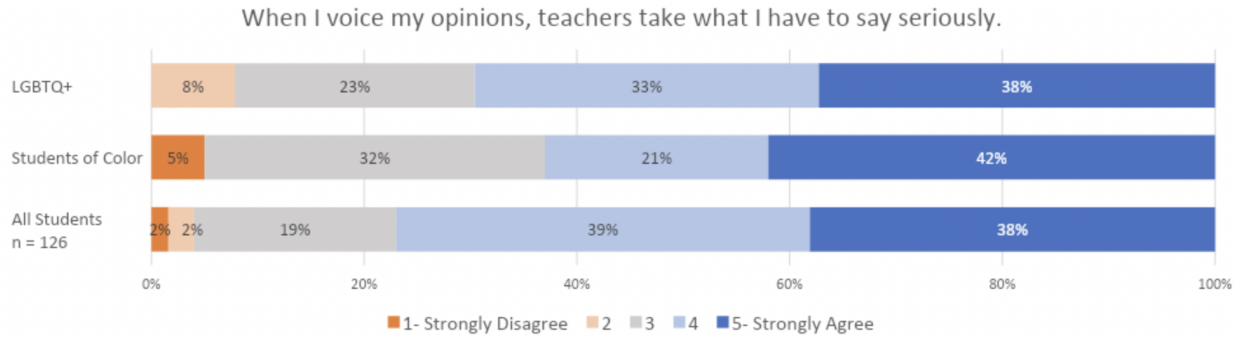
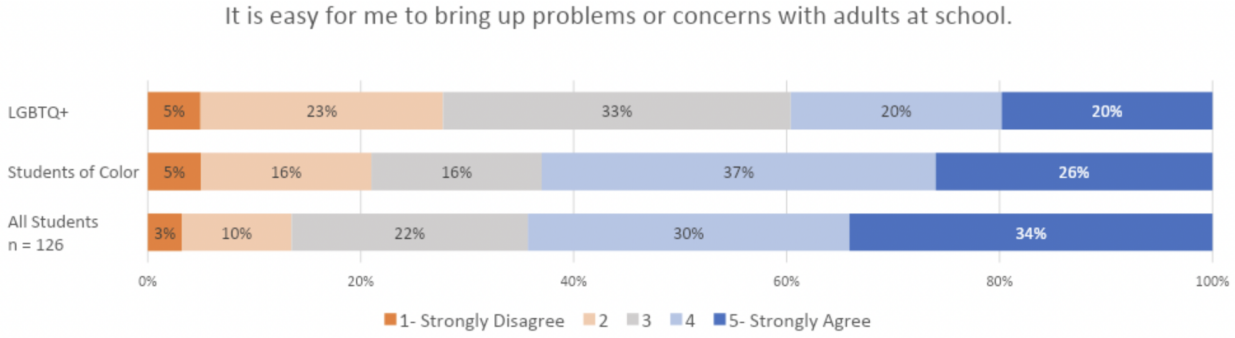
Communication and Engagement with School







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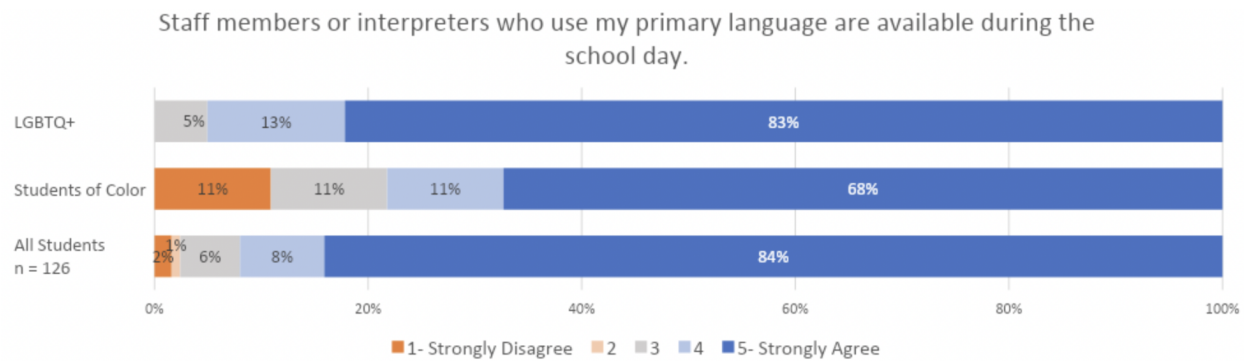

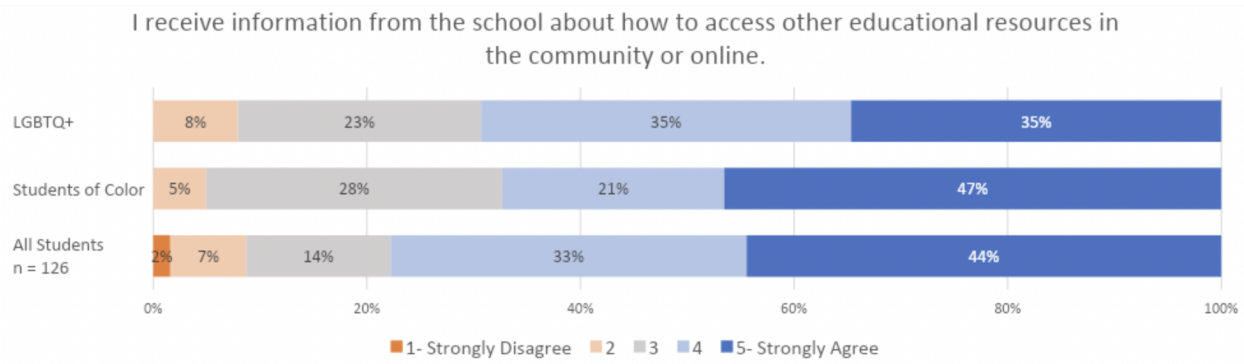

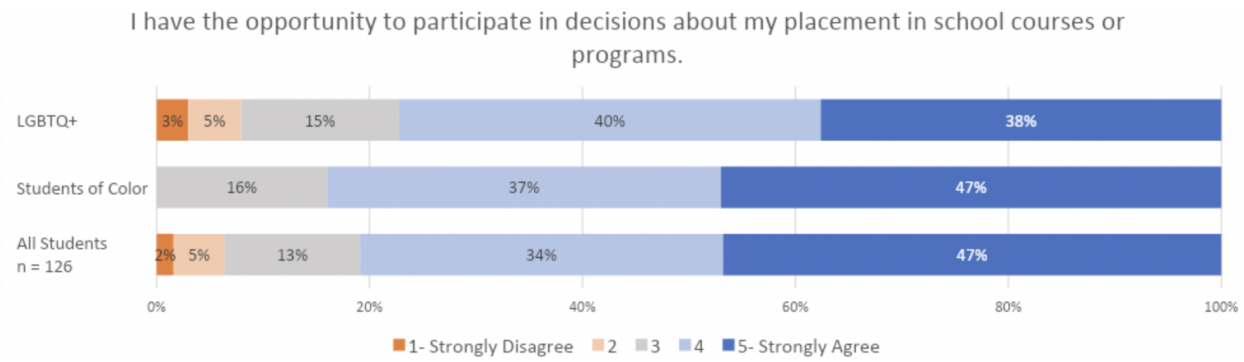

What are some things about the school that have had a positive impact on your education?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	9%	
Supportive teachers and staff	47%	• The teachers pay attention and care a lot more for their students. I feel much more comfortable with them than I have with any other teachers I've had. • Teachers. The teachers are phenomenal.

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		● The teachers are obviously very passionate about their jobs and care deeply about their students.
Friends	3%	● Having a lot of friends
Small class sizes	18%	● Small class sizes make it easier to connect with my teacher ● I think the small population and the good student teacher ratio allows me to get a lot more efficient feedback.
Classes offered	16%	● Access to electives is really helpful; I love electives. ● availability of advanced math/physics courses
Clubs	4%	● I really like the variety of clubs
Athletics	2%	● Athletics, teacher availability.
Student freedom and choice	7%	● Being able to choose some classes, and being able to have different levels of certain classes ● The many different freedoms and opportunities
Honors and AP classes	10%	● They've allowed me to take courses that challenge my way of thinking. The honors courses have been really nice because they allow me to go beyond the basics. ● Being able to take AP tests and honors classes
Counseling and equity	5%	● Available counseling ● A focus on equity from the faculty, counselor resources

What are some things the school could do to make a better impact on your education?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	16%	
Off topic response	5%	

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It's going well currently	8%	● keep hiring the teachers you are hiring they are great ● keep doing what they are doing
Wider range of class options	20%	● More elective choices. ● Have a wider variety of classes or at least let us have more control over the classes we pick ● Provide more AP classes.
Class size	3%	● More evenly distributed class sizes. Some classes I have 10 people, others I have 25. It's hard for me to focus in a class size of 25. ● Slightly bigger classes
Changing the math department	9%	● take more time in math classes to make sure students actually understand what's happening ● having all math textbooks include an online option
More times and spaces for socializing	3%	● Make more spaces for students to gather in, however that may be possible. ● More opportunities for breaks
Less homework/lighter workload	7%	● I truly think that some classes, especially the humanities or history related ones, assign a large amount of work that could be cut down a little. ● less HW and less testing
Teaching practices	9%	● I think the school should focus more on learning than scores (test for understanding and not for a grade). For example, students should be able to work through quizzes after they're taken to ensure they understand the content, rather than taking the quiz and moving in to the next subject. ● More flexibility with due dates. ● Allow for multiple different styles of learning in different classes.
Need for study hall/academic support	7%	● Having a tutor available after school for study hall. ● a study hall option

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Social emotional support	7%	● checking in with students more regularly ● I think that having more teachers or people around me who know the signs of stress or the start of a panic/anxiety attack would really help. Im bad at voicing things so this would make Riverdale a better environment for me.
Equity and inclusion	3%	● Learning about diversity more ● Promote the usage of gender neutral language to staff

What are some ways you would like to engage with the school in the future?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
I don't know	30%	
Off topic response	1%	
Clubs	30%	● Join more clubs. ● I would like to put myself out there more and join more clubs/extracurriculars. ● More clear information on how clubs work
Athletics	2%	● Attend sporting games ● be part of more clubs and sports
Graduating this year	13%	● I'd love to stay in touch with teachers and staff!
Volunteering	8%	● I would like to volunteer at school events more ● More clubs that interest me in particular and volunteering to sell concessions at games.
Different course offerings		● I would like to maybe make a class about something that interests me and maybe another teacher. ● More surveys about what classes we want, and what things we are actually interested in learning about, as well as the things we feel are relevant.

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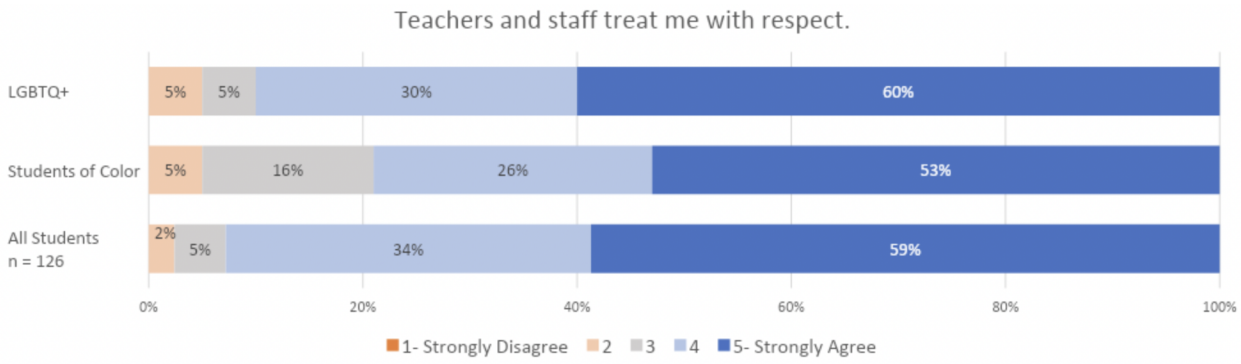
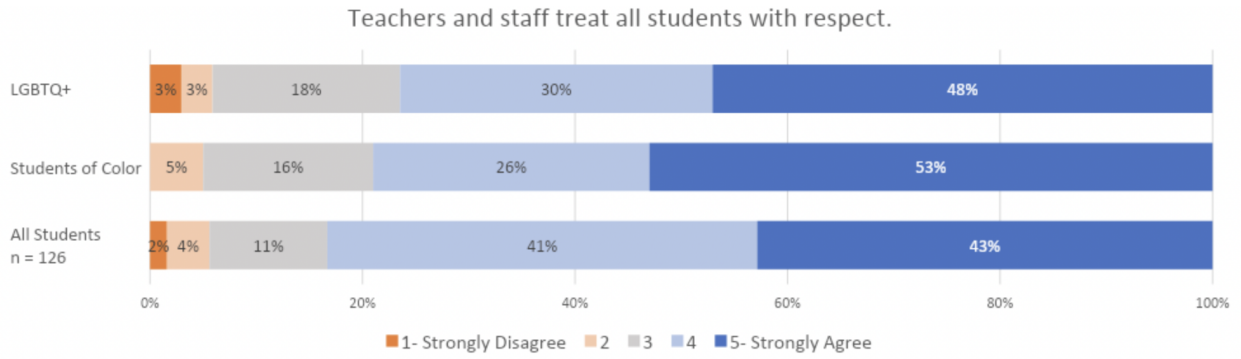
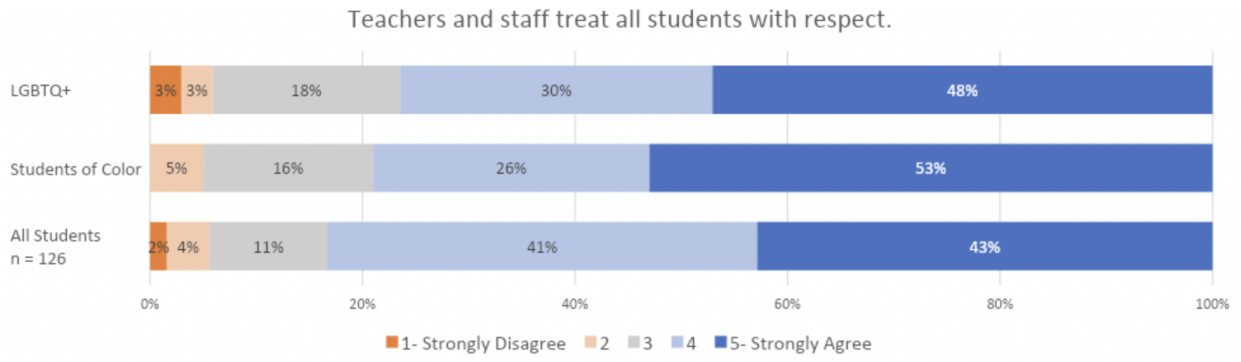
Student/Staff Relationships







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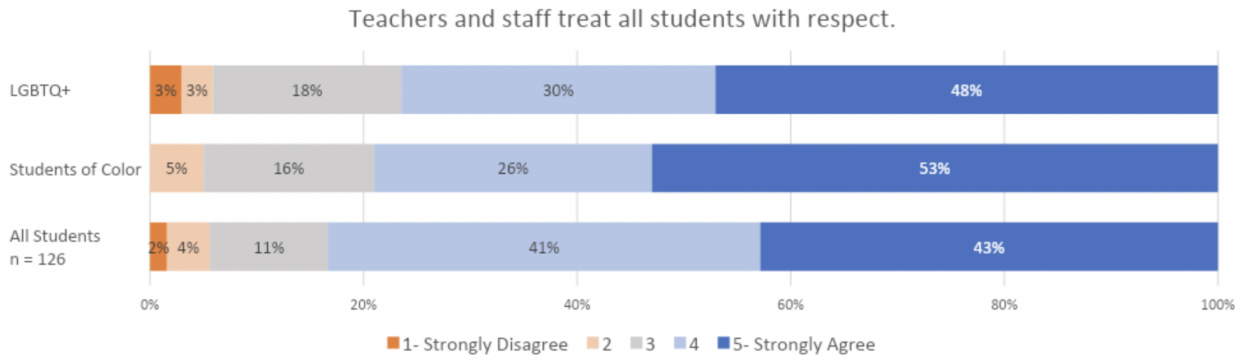

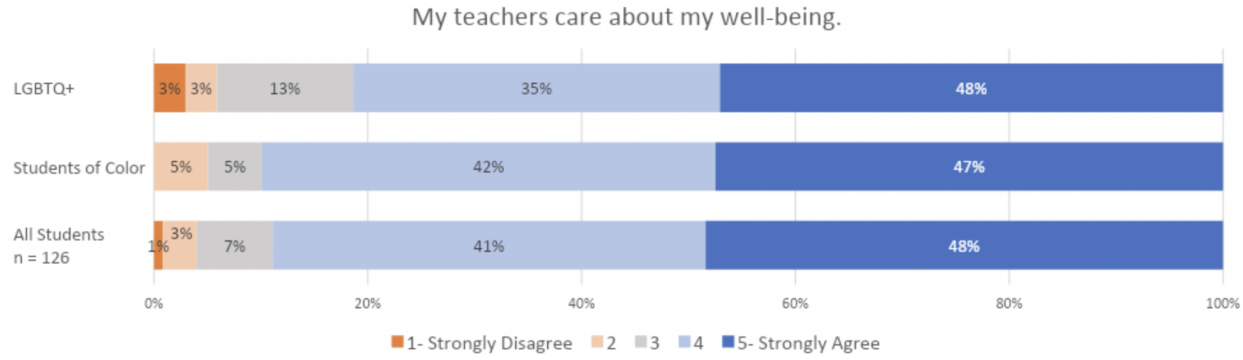

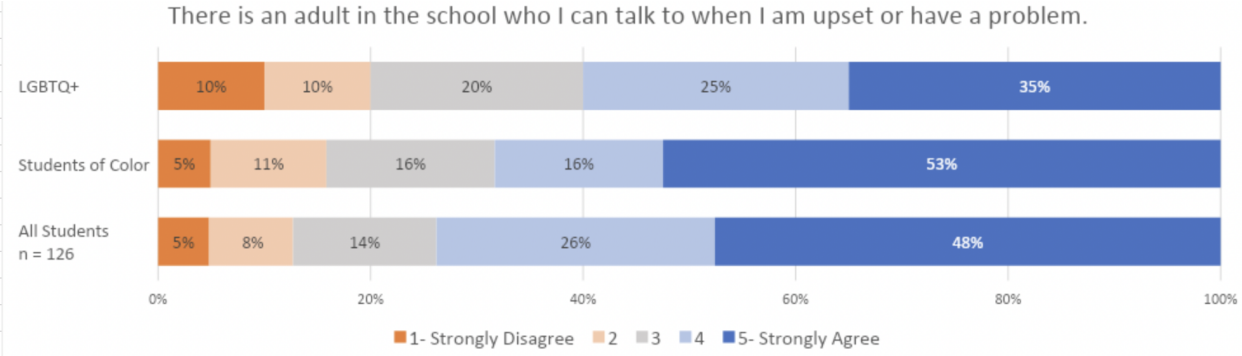

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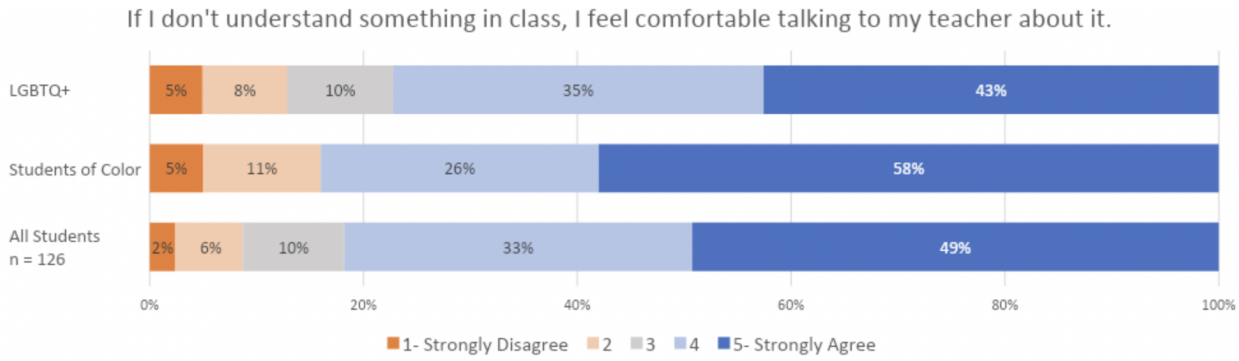

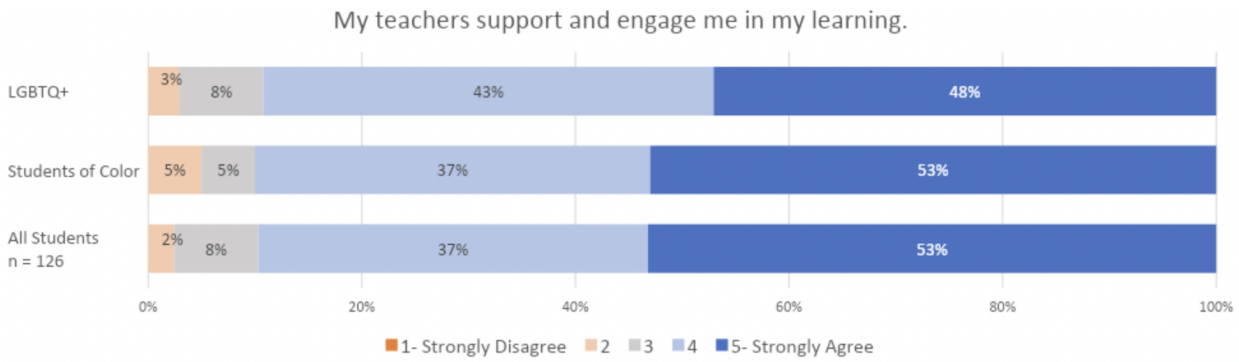

What are some things the school could do to improve relationships between students and teachers/staff?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	27%	
It's going well currently	18%	• I think that the relationships between students and staff are good enough • idk, my teachers are great i dont think any changes are necessary
More fun activities/opportunities to connect with staff outside of academic settings	17%	• More class days where we do fun activities rather than just learning. • Possibly more class trips off campus, and more physical activities between teacher and class. • Having more one on one check ins with students. Additionally, there should be more opportunities for students and staff to interact outside of an academic setting. Like electives that are more chill.

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Less homework	3%	● maybe a little less hw or just work in general ● I think the amount of busy work homework needs to be reduced
Have office hours	3%	● office hours help alot with communications
More individual check ins with students	14%	● check in more and ask how they are doing with the school work giving by them and asking if there is anything they can do to help. ● I would like maybe a meeting once a trimester to talk with teachers. For instance a student/teacher meeting?
Advisory changes	3%	● More engaging activities and discussions in advisory. We used to talk about meaningful things in advisory, and now it's just dull. Also, the advisories should have never been switched. I truly think that was one of the worst ideas and hurt my experience the most here.
Opportunities for student feedback	5%	● Allow for students to give constructive criticism. ● Probably have a survey opened all year long specifically for the students and parents to let them share opinions about anything about school ● im not sure there's anything the school can do, but maybe allowing students to submit feedback on classes/teachers? so they can say what does and doesn't work for them
Changes to class schedule	3%	● Shorter classes, but more classes ● give more time between classes for breaks
More relationship building and understanding of students	11%	● better handling of neurodivergence ● Respect all students.

What are some things the school could do to improve relationships between families and teachers/staff?

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Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	55%	
More social gatherings	10%	● invite them to more events ● i think more family events.
More emails and meetings with staff about how students are doing	22%	● monthly calls with guardians ● More communication about how the student is doing in their classes ● More outreach. Parent-teacher conferences are only three times per year, which is plenty for an academic level, but maybe discussing with parents the other ways students thrive or struggle (mental health, sociability, etc.) would also be helpful.
Relationship dynamics	12%	● Have trust in parents. ● Make sure dunthworpe parents don’t have all the way in decisions.

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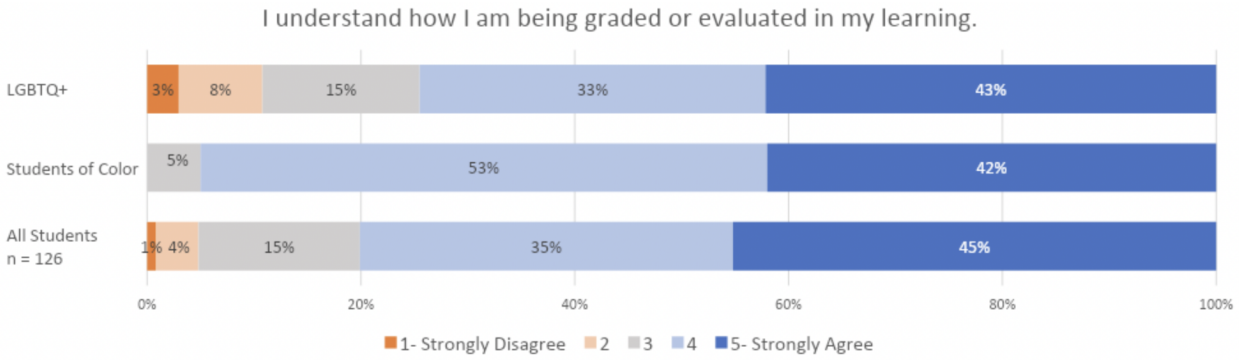
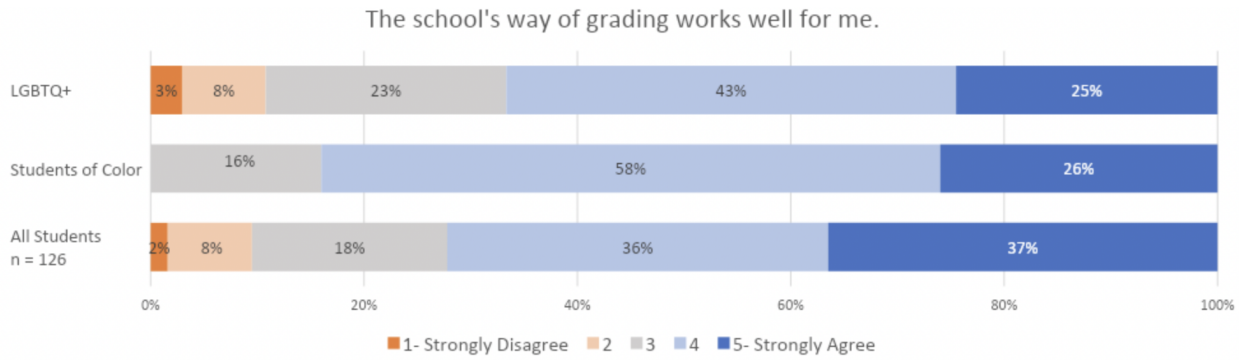
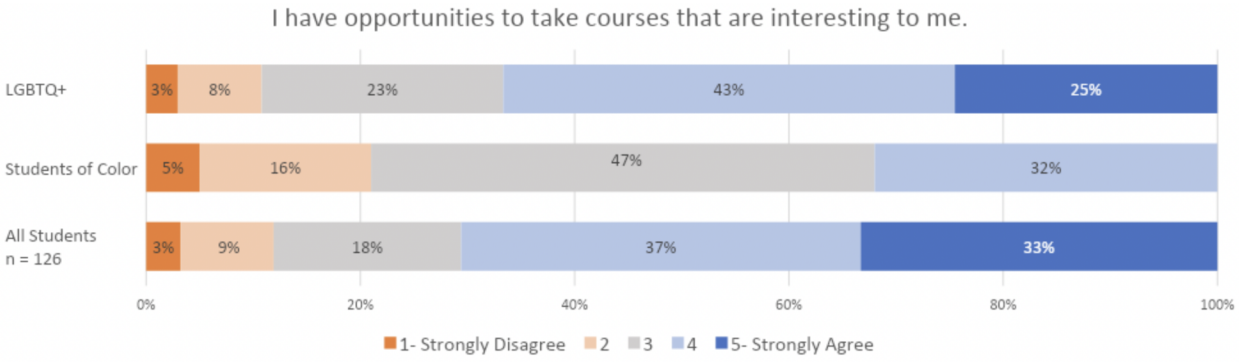
Pedagogical Effectiveness







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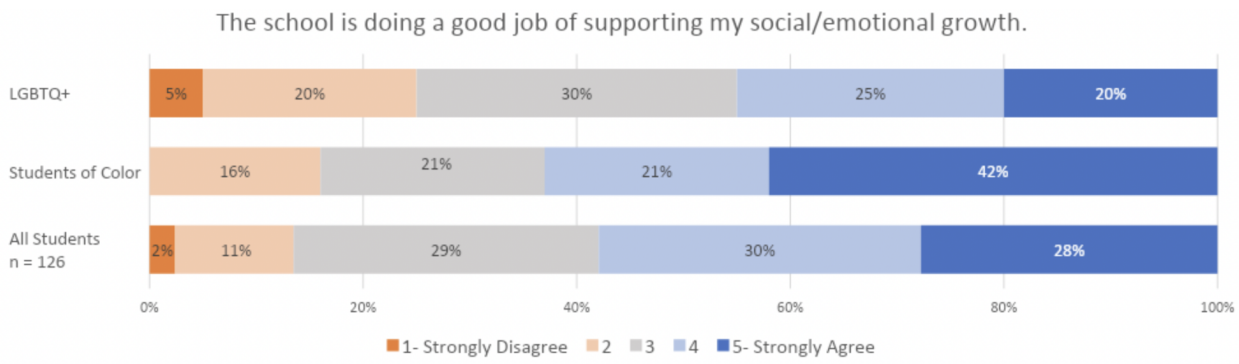

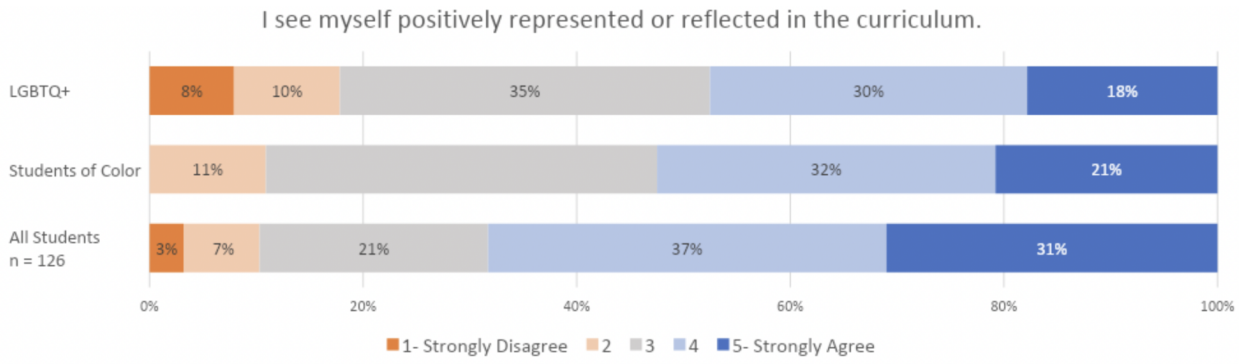

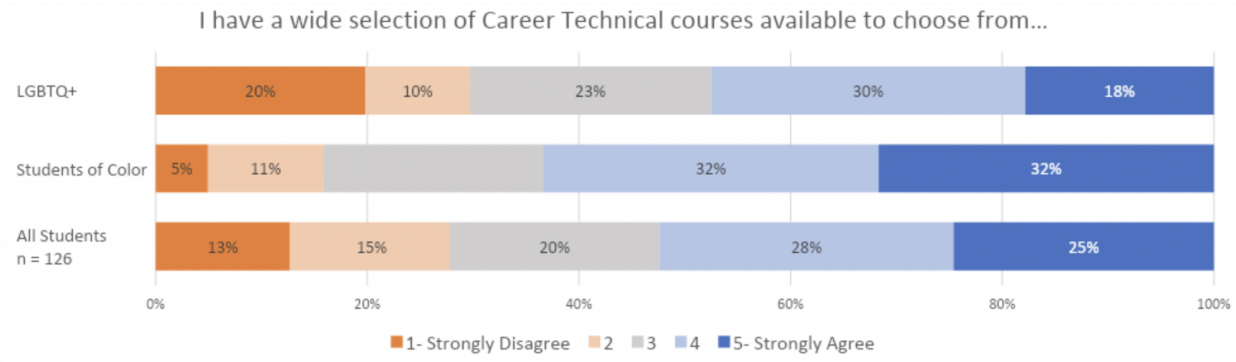

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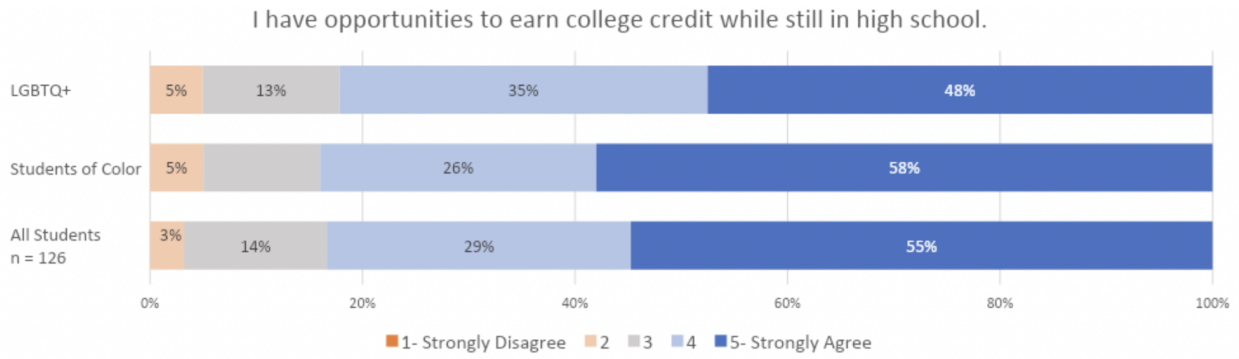

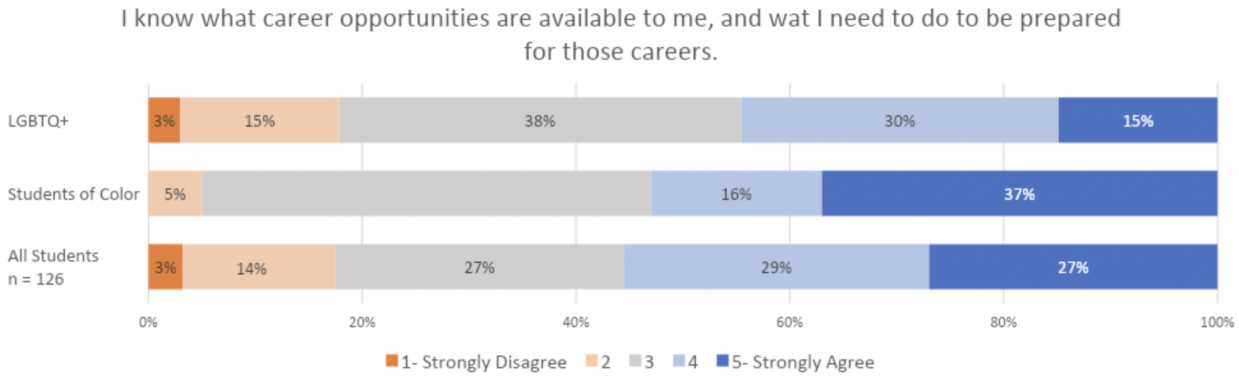

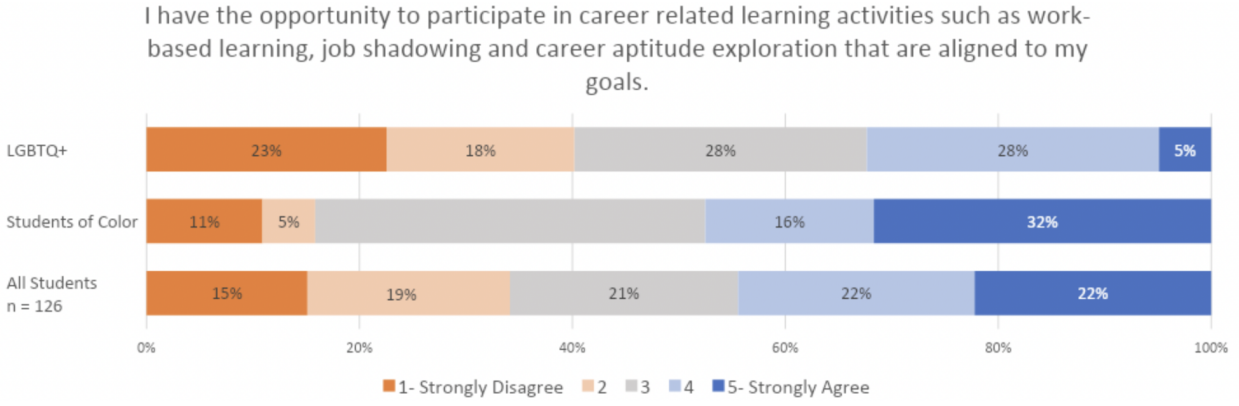

What could be done to make your classes more interesting and engaging?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	19%	
More groups projects	11%	• more group projects/ peer engagement. • make them more project based and team building. Create a environment where

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		the students learn to work with and rely on each other and the people around them for support and skills that yo yourself don't have
More hands on work	14%	● I would like more hands-on activities, more interactive. ● add more of stuff were interested in, like making posters
Connections to real world skills	6%	● Show how the skills we are learning can be applied to the outside world. ● Again, class trips, and classes that pertain to students' interests in what jobs they wish to pursue.
Different course options	11%	● I think that the school should offer more elective courses related to business instead of humanities ● I think just having more options for classes that I would personally find engaging based on my interests. We don’t have a lot of variety, particularly with STEM electives.
More class discussion	7%	● More full class discussion time
More field trips	4%	● i think more field trips
Less lectures	4%	● They could be held in a more student-engaging manner rather than just talking.
Changes to class structure	24%	● Less emphasis on grading ● More varied learning structures. ● More breaks, opportunities to go on walks

What are some steps the school could take to support your progress in school?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	45%	
Off topic response	9%	

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

More college support	13%	● offer more opportunities for college credit ● I would like to learn more about the college process and all that I need to do to get into the college I want to get to.
Different course options	8%	● allow study halls to be available to more students, not just those with 504s. the student athletes and employed students need it, too. ● More science classes.
More social emotional and counseling support	11%	● Better communication with how I am doing mentally ● Check and connect period. The "10 minute break" between 1st and 2nd is a joke. Advisory should be used partially to check and connect, or some other time during the school day.
Changes to class structure	8%	● idk, make sure kids understand the material before moving on ● better student teacher communication

What are some courses you would like to have available at your school that aren't currently offered?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	13%	
Course suggestions (all responses are listed)	87%	● welding; more art classes pertaining to just painting/aiming on becoming a long term artist ● Food and nutrition? ● personal finance, i had it when i went to pps it was a really good class and it taught me alot ● Home ec ● Carpentry, welding ● More writing courses and gender and equity based courses. ● More science base courses. ● Photography ● Computer science, psychology ● coed football, surgery class, coffee making.

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

		● advanced stats b calculus II and summer school offerings. Also varsity sports should count as some form of PE credit ● I don't know all the classes offered but if there was like, a cosmology/space class I would like that since I like space. ● Anything arts related ● animal related classes, such as caring for animals, animal anatomy etc. ● I would like more ocean-focused courses or marine sciences. ● ap art/higher level art classes ● study hall ● marketing, personal finance, introduction to business, business basics ● architecture ● Classes teaching you how to work on cars, woodworking classes, business-related classes, a business shadowing class. ● Wood working, automobile shops (how to change a tire on a car), sewing class, acting/film making class, ● Creative writing!!!!!!!! ● I would've liked to take a second language course as I enjoy those classes, but I understand not many people do enjoy that and it might not work out with scheduling. ● possibly an architecture elective ● Additional reading and writing courses, just like creative writing. ● More art classes. ● Shop class ● I think a creative writing or journalism class would be cool. ● More sports, but after school, during school ● Railroads ● College stuff ● Something poetry focused. ● An architectural design course ● I know that we would never be able to make this work but an archery club would be great, I know of at least 2 kids in my grade who would be interested.

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

		● oceanography ● ASL (language) ● Crochet ● I suppose crafts? ● a machine class and a agriculture class ● More career centric courses, take a schoolwide poll ● ceramics ● Japanese ● Black History ● Hands on learning would cool. e.g. Woodshop/metalworking, different types of engineering (more specific and applied physics/chemistry), structural design, etc. ● Theater/drama, science - astronomy and geology, ceramics, ● More STEM electives. ● Ceramics ● More technology classes. ● Mechanical engine classes ● Social sciences, political science, business, personal finance, LIFE 101 (we don't know how to do taxes), marketing, AP GOV. ● AP COURSESSS ● Financial literacy, photography ● More classes involving activism like Equity and Identity Race and Gender. As well as journalism and creative writing such as novels and/or poems. And a Religious studies class looking at the developments of different religions and the ways tey spread and treat people of other religions. ● Classes like economics...Applied classes that prepare people for the real world. Not ones that teach me about the advantages that I have over marginalized people. ● german ● life 101 or just classes that will help us prepare for independent living ● Marine biology/STEM courses ● Band

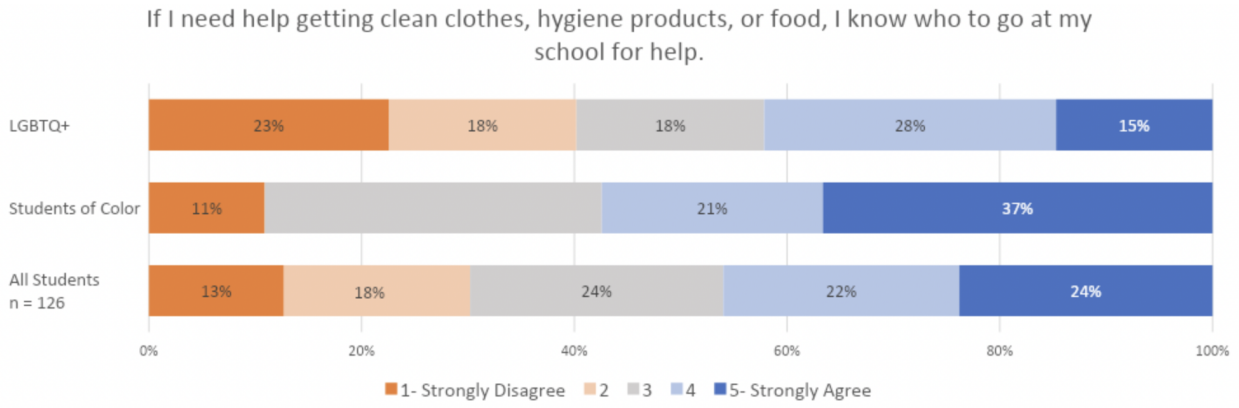
Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

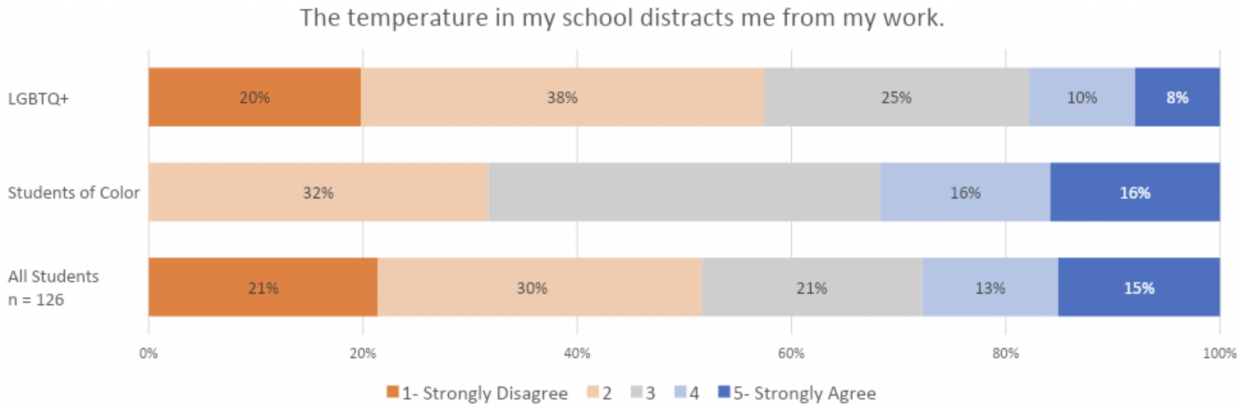
Are there barriers (e.g. fees, transportation, prerequisites) that prevent you from participating in activities offered by the school during regular school hours? If so, what are they?

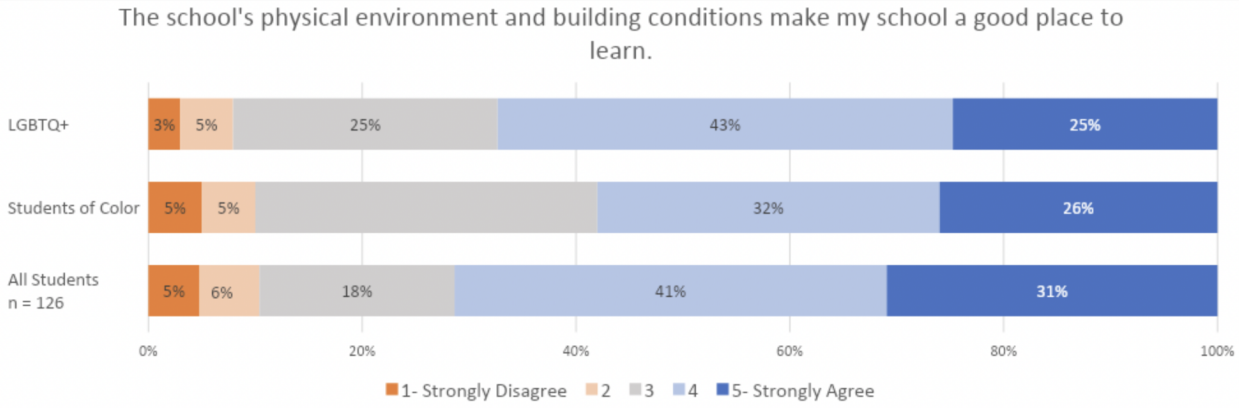
Category	%	Sample Quotes
No barriers	65%	
Transportation	11%	● I take the trimet too and from school everyday. the buses tend to only be available from 2:45pm - 6pm making it difficult for me to attend home games. ● Yeah, transportation.
Fees	8%	● Not sure about regular school hours, but I'm not entirely sure why, (in general, for all schools I assume) sports and extracurriculars are so expensive. For the most part, my family and I pay for the gear not already provided (which are usually just balls (for sports), and jerseys) ● fees
School hours	8%	● Not being able to stay longer periods after school ● School ends late

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

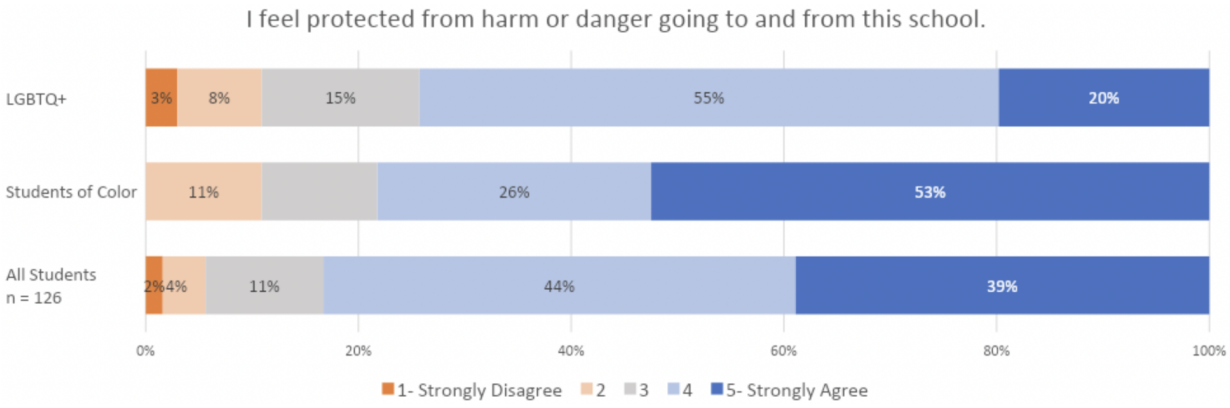
School Environment

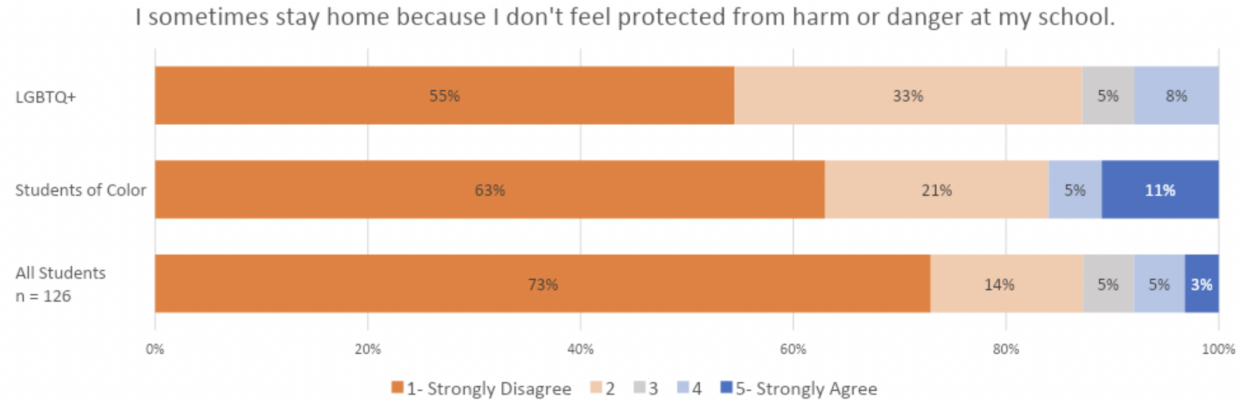


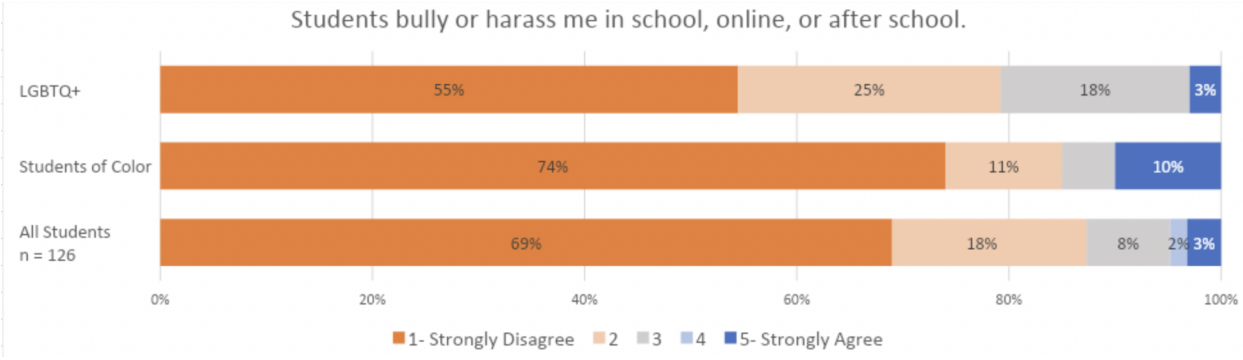




Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact







What is something school leaders could do at school to increase your sense of physical or emotional security and well being?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	62%	
Off topic response	8%	

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

School physical environment	8%	● It's always really cold in the school and teacher don't let you use headphones which is really unhelpful and makes it hard to concentrate ● nothing this school is great i wish we had more study places, and less lockers
More connections with staff	16%	● They could connect with us better. ● Better communication/ check in's
Security	4%	● Put security cameras in the back parking lot ● i think having a security person
Student relationships	2%	● take surveys that are anonymous to expose bullying

What are some steps the school could take to support your health and security?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	43%	
It's going well currently	21%	● I feel safe and supported at school. ● I am satisfied so nothing
Lessen the workload	4%	● Less homework!!!!!!! And a bigger playground!!! ● not assign hella essays like the day before they are due
Food options	4%	● Free vegetable snacks like baby carrots ● off campus lunch
Mental health	11%	● allowing me to take time off when needed ● more mental health help that doesn't force them to call your parents
Security	6%	● if there is a threat near the school, security checks ● a security guard
School environment	6%	● Buy better tampons. ● Make kids that are sick go home or were a mask, use more air filters ● It's kind of cold sometimes

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

What are some steps the school could take to show pride in physical learning spaces (buildings or grounds)?

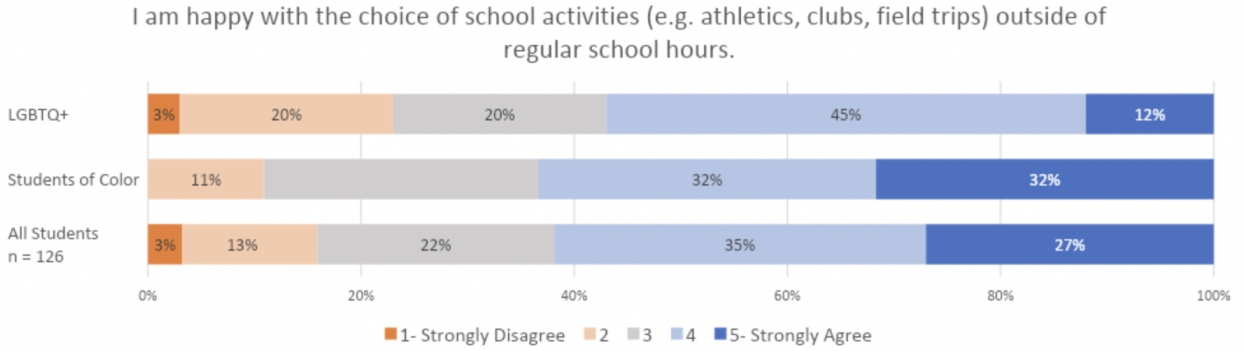
Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	43%	
Student suggestions (all responses are listed)	57%	● more student stuff on walls that is permanent like murals and outdoor stuff ● Incorporating more outdoor seating spaces (picnic tables, covered patios, etc.) into the grounds ● Have our own Soccer field. ● More seating and comfortable places to study and do work? ● Make it more lively ● Make it less crammed ● murals on the walls ● The school could get a track if they want.. ● Take better care of facilities. ● Murals, like at the grade school. This place is kind of drab honestly. ● Posters and signs for diffrent things ● have warm classes so we aren't freezing in the middle of winter like we are now ● I'd have liked if the basketball hoop outside went back up after covid (I don't remember if it is back up now but I used to come here a lot and use it so it was a shame to see it never went back up). ● Community garden! ● PLAYGROUND ● make sure to de ice stairs when it gets snowy ● building an auditorium. ● more artwork and student projects in the halls. The hallways downstairs look kinda barren ● Possibly enforcing more study time? ● i guess make us do more physical stuff ● warmer, stop opening windows. Better lighting that isn't so depressing. ● Better heating and cooling systems and better air flow quality ● A bigger playground!!!!!

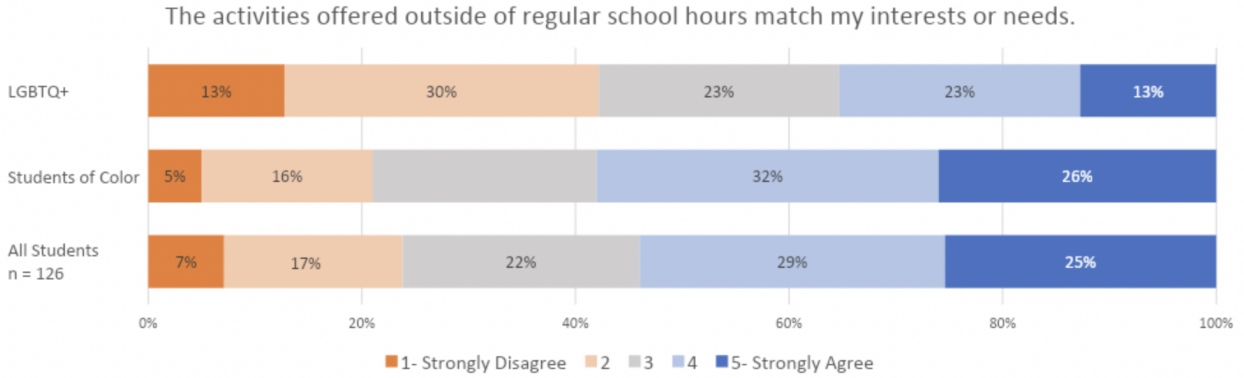
Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

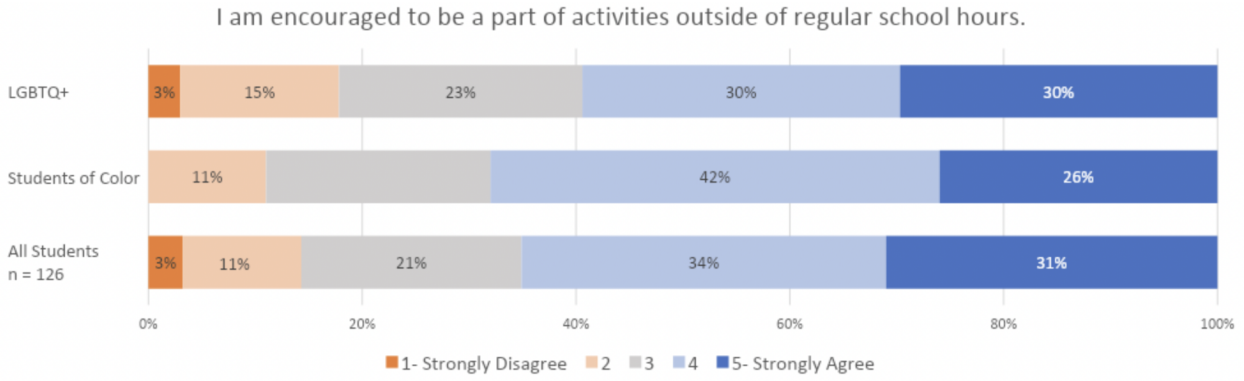
		● i think just more time outside ● flowers around the entrance, (I would be happy to plant them for service hours) ● I think the school should work harder to make the school more physically attractive or comfortable. ● allow outdoor activities or learning when the weather is nice. ● More school spirit, more decorations and general friendlier surroundings. ● more places to study and hang out

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

School-Sponsored Activities







Are there barriers (e.g. fees, transportation, care for a younger sibling, a job) that prevent you from participating in activities offered by the school outside of regular school hours? If so, what are they?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
No barriers	41%	

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

Transportation	20%	● No transportation some days ● transportation mainly
Fees	10%	● yes fees ● Fees for sports/certain clubs
School work load	5%	● Yes. Homework!!!!!
Other out-of-school extracurriculars	17%	● I have other lessons that take up most of my time ● I have other outside school extracurriculares such as dance ● Practices can coinside with other activities such as therapy and club practice.

What are some school activities you would like to see available?

Category	%	Sample Quotes
Nothing/I don't know	27%	
Activity suggestions (all responses are listed)	73%	● football ● Rocketry ● Creative writing, dance ● baseball ● Football ● pickle ball ● anything besides sports ● Engine classes ● Band ● Water polo, anime club ● ASL (language) Volleyball (sport) sewing (club) Cooking (club) ● crochet and cooking ● More travel opportunities ● Stronger Theater Program. ● Engineering classes ● More field studies. ● Wrestling ● Something having to do with cosmology maybe? I dunno. Space stuff. I like space. ● More athletics, maybe debate club, more dances, class specific parties/activites. ● Theatre

Riverdale High School Student Engagement Survey Artifact

		● fundraisers and more events concerning volunteering and contributing to the community in Oregon ie; volunteering at a homeless shelter, cooking food for family at RMHC. ● mostly just higher participation in sports I don't feel like we have enough people to do the things we have. ● Art ● Acting club ● fishing; ● Astronomy/Stargazing Club!!!!!!!!!!!!! ● More gym activities ● COED FOOTBALL. ● Bowling ● archery club ● I would like to see snowboarding or skiing available, and not being required to do it with other schools. ● i would like to see more recognition towards the students who take part in activities outside of school. On average, student athletes devote probably 12 hours per week to athletics. they are also juggling school work. they get awarded for athlete of the month. there are many students who work, volunteer, or apart of other organizations that also take up many of the hours of their week, all while also juggling schoolwork. there is no recognition for them even when they are cut of the same time of the student athletes who get awarded a certificate and gift card at assemblies. recognize those who have big commitments. just because its not an athletic commitment does not mean it should go unrecognized or viewed as any less. ● More art extracurriculars. ● fishing, more outdoor options